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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY





INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 02010-03 La/hm	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)		
International application No.	International filing date (day/m	onth/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP2003/008000	22 July 2003 (22.07.	2003)	11 September 2002 (11.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A61M 1/16			
Applicant FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE DEUTSCHLAND GMBH			
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of sheets. 			
2. This papert contains indications relation to the following its sur-			
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:			
I Basis of the report			
II Priority			
III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability			
Lack of unity of invention			
Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
VI Certain documents cited			
VII Certain defects in the international application			
VIII Certain observations on the international application			
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of	completion o	f this report
		-	
03 March 2004 (03.03.	2004)	16.	June 2004 (16.06.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authori	zed officer	
Facsimile No.	Telepho	one No.	

I. Basis of the report

The basis of international preliminary examination report is the application as originally filed.

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The question of whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step, or to be industrially applicable has not been the subject of the international preliminary examination in respect of the claims which have not been searched (Article 17(2)(a) or (3) and Rule 66.1(e) PCT; see also international search report).

V. Reasoned statement under Article 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

To the extent that the international preliminary examination has been carried out (see item III above), the following is pointed out:

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims, which have been the subject of an international search report, does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).